

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) An imager apparatus in which an optical member protecting an imaging element is vibrated to remove dust from the optical member, said apparatus comprising:

a vibration member which vibrates the optical member ~~in a plurality of conditions~~ for a predetermined time;

a photographing-mode setting unit which sets a photographing mode; and

~~a vibration condition changing unit which changes the condition in which the vibration member vibrates the optical member, in accordance with the photographing mode set by the photographing mode setting unit.~~

a vibration-time setting unit which sets, when the photographing-mode setting unit sets the photographing mode to a continuous photographing mode, a first time as the predetermined time for a first photographing operation, and a second time as the predetermined time for each of subsequent photographing operations from a second photographing operation onward,

wherein the vibration-time setting unit sets the first time to time longer than the second time.

2-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently amended) An imager apparatus in which an optical member protecting an imaging element is vibrated to remove dust from the optical member, said apparatus comprising:

a vibration member which vibrates the optical member;

a photographing-mode setting unit which sets a photographing mode; and

an operation-prohibiting unit which prohibits the vibration member from operating; in accordance with the photographing mode set by the photographing-mode setting unit,

wherein when the photographing-mode setting unit selects a single-shot photographing mode, the operation-prohibiting unit permits the vibration member to operate each time a photographing operation is performed, and when the photographing-mode setting unit selects a continuous photographing mode, the operation-prohibiting unit permits the operation-prohibiting unit to operate only at a first photographing, and prohibits the vibration member from operating at subsequent photographing from a second photographing onward.

6-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently amended) An imager apparatus in which an optical member protecting an imaging element is vibrated to remove dust from the optical member, said apparatus comprising:

a vibration member which vibrates the optical member ~~in a plurality of conditions~~ for a predetermined time;

a photographing-condition setting unit which sets a photographing ~~mode~~ condition; and

~~a vibration condition changing unit which changes the condition in a vibration-time changing unit which changes the predetermined time for which the vibration member vibrates the optical member, in accordance with the photographing condition set by the photographing-condition setting unit.~~

10-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently amended) An imager apparatus in which an optical member protecting an imaging element is vibrated to remove dust from the optical member, said apparatus comprising:

a vibration member which vibrates the optical member;

a photographing-condition setting unit which sets a photographing ~~mode~~ condition; and

an operation-timing setting unit which sets a timing at which the vibration member is operated, in accordance with the photographing condition set by the photographing-condition setting unit,

wherein the photographing-condition setting unit sets exposure time or selects an exposure operation in a bulb state.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently amended) ~~The imager apparatus according to claim 12, An~~ imager apparatus in which an optical member protecting an imaging element is vibrated to remove dust from the optical member, said apparatus comprising:

a vibration member which vibrates the optical member;

a photographing-condition setting unit which sets a photographing condition;
and

an operation-timing setting unit which sets a timing at which the vibration member is operated, in accordance with the photographing condition set by the photographing-condition setting unit,

wherein the operation-timing setting unit causes the vibration member to operate during an exposure operation of the imaging element, in accordance with the ~~conditions~~ condition set by the photographing-condition setting unit.

15. (Currently amended) ~~The imager apparatus according to claim 12,~~ An imager apparatus in which an optical member protecting an imaging element is vibrated to remove dust from the optical member, said apparatus comprising:

a vibration member which vibrates the optical member;

a photographing-condition setting unit which sets a photographing condition;

and

an operation-timing setting unit which sets a timing at which the vibration member is operated, in accordance with the photographing condition set by the photographing-condition setting unit,

wherein the operation-timing setting unit causes ~~[[to]]~~ the vibration member to ~~operate~~ intermittently operate during an exposure operation of the imaging element, in accordance with the ~~conditions~~ condition set by the photographing-condition setting unit.

16. (New) An imager apparatus in which an optical member protecting an imaging element is vibrated to remove dust from the optical member, said apparatus comprising:

a vibration member which vibrates the optical member for a predetermined time;

a photographing-condition setting unit which sets a photographing condition;
and

a vibration-time changing unit which changes the predetermined time for which the vibration member vibrates the optical member, in accordance with the photographing condition set by the photographing-condition setting unit,

wherein the vibration-time changing unit increases the predetermined time, when the photographing-condition setting unit sets a high resolution as a resolution for images to be photographed.